

1. What are your top three goals for the city in the next four years (term of office)?

1. Work to get the city on a stable financial plan
2. Conduct the City Council meetings in a professional manner
3. Provide an atmosphere conducive to growth, both commercial and residential related.

2. How would you foster cooperation between the City Council and Mayor?

The mayor and council need to work on having a trusting, working relationship, we should be working together for the best interest of the citizens of Bay St Louis, issues need to be discussed and resolved in a professional manner.

3. What measures would you support to increase the city's revenue?

The city's sales tax revenues have increased since 2014, however are now starting to level off. Casino revenue is down considerably over the past 11 years, and Ad Valorem Tax is up from the increase in new properties and the increase in property values. I will continue to support smart growth of businesses in the city and continue to make the town attractive for second home owners to come and enjoy what our town has to offer.

4. List three ways you would foster support of and communication with the city's appointed commissions (Planning and Zoning, Harbor and Historic Preservation).

1. I regularly attend the Planning and Zoning meetings to ensure I understand the applications at hand which allow me to make an informed decision. I am also at times a resource at the meetings as I am very proficient with the Bay St Louis zoning laws. As a regular attendee of the meetings, I am personally there to support the commissioners and thank them for their service.
2. I read the minutes from the Harbor Commission to understand the issues facing the Commission, if there is an issue the City Council needs to approve I contact the Commissioners to understand their thoughts and then I do my research on the issue so I can make an educated decision when I have to cast a vote.
3. I served on the City Council when the Historic Preservation Commission was formed and worked with the original members to draft the Historic Preservation Ordinance and Design Guidelines. I spent a great deal of time reviewing the Ordinance and doing research before it was approved. The Commission has a great track record of helping people build and still

keep the charm and character of Bay St Louis, which was the intent of the Historic Preservation Commission and Ordinance when it was adopted.

5. What are your ideas for preserving our community's unique character while supporting residential and business growth?

The creation of the Historic Preservation Ordinance and the Commission has helped keep the character and charm of portions of the city while spurring tremendous growth in these areas as well. The Beach area of the town has grown making the Downtown area a great tourist attraction with the Harbor as a wonderful focal point. I believe the city is on the right path with both commercial as well as residential development.

6. What actions can the city take now to maximize benefits when it becomes a stop on the future Amtrak route?

The city is in line to get funding to repair some building and ground issues at the Depot. These updates will spruce up the area and make this stop a great place for visitors to the city. The Depot area has been transformed into a great asset to the town with the Community Center, Little Theater, the duck pond and local businesses. All these things collectively make the Depot a great stop for tourist to get off the train and visit. Currently there is a new condo development being built and two hotels in the works downtown so the visitors will have a place to stay while here. We are open and ready for these tourists to visit.

7. Should the city provide financial support to economic development organizations like the Hancock Chamber and Hancock County Tourism? Support your answer.

The city is trying to get on stable financial footing and at this time we have stopped funding for almost all outside groups, currently we support the Senior Citizens Center and the Hancock County Tourism Commission with \$22,000 a year. A little known fact is the City of Bay St Louis has to pay to be an official site for Cruisin' the Coast and the majority of the \$22,000 for tourism goes directly to the Cruisin' the Coast event. This event creates a very large influx of people to discover Bay St Louis and also generates sales tax revenue which directly supports the city and its citizens.

8. What importance do you place on proposed community amenities such as a swimming pool, additional bicycle paths and dog parks?

I think we need to continue making the city both walkable and bicycle friendly. There is a need for a dog park in the city and there has been some property identified that could be used. Grant funding has been identified which can be applied for helping with the construction of the dog park.

9. What is your position on the possibility of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department managing the BSL Police Department. State the advantages and/or disadvantages you foresee.

I have completed a detailed study of this issue and created a 24 page Power Point presentation of the facts. There is some savings in the change but not sure at this time the residents want the change no matter the cost/savings. The advantage is a possible savings of over \$200,000 a year. The disadvantage is some loss of autonomy of the police force. I stated at the Ward meeting I had with my constituents, "I represent you and I want you to tell me what you would like me to do, here are the facts". At that time, I presented the PowerPoint presentation.

After all was said and done, I made the motion at the Council Meeting to hire the new police chief and we moved forward.

10. The number of golf carts on city streets continues to grow. How should golf cart use be regulated?

The city has in the past submitted to the State legislative body a "Local and Private Bill" to allow the citizens of Bay St Louis to use low speed vehicles (Golf carts) on the city streets, the bill did not make it out of committee. The city again is trying to get another "Local and Private Bill" passed through the State legislature so it would be legal for low speed vehicles to travel on the streets of Bay St Louis. Citizens can drive low speed vehicles today on the city streets as long as they conform to State law.

11. As the city grows do you think it should consider changing its present form of government? Explain your answer. *Note: The page on our Serve BSL website contains information and resources that might be helpful in answering this question.*

Doug Seal
Ward One Council Candidate

4 of 4

Any form of government or business model will not work when there is no TRUST between the members of the governing board. There are positive and negative aspects of all government bodies. There is no perfect system and no one is perfect, but again the most important thing at the heart of any endeavor is TRUST, and it must be the foundation. I again represent the people who have honored me by allowing me to serve them; this decision should be one that is discussed with numerous public forums with input from all the citizens. Should I hear from enough of my constituents I will be the first to recommend we look into other forms of government for the City of Bay St Louis. I will do what I do best, research forms of government recommended by the citizens and come back with the positive and negative aspects of each type. I will share this information with all citizens and from that point we can make an informed decision together, again TRUST is the foundation of our being!